WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Corruption and Favourtism in Employment Exchanges

*65. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of rampant corruption and favouritism in almost all the Employment Exchanges in the country; and

(b) if so, what remedial action Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) and (b) It is not correct to say that rampant corruption and favouritism prevails at almost all Employment Exchanges in the country. Some complaints about malpractices at Employment Exchanges were received by the Government in the past. These complaints were promptly forwarded to the State Governments/ Union Territory Administrations for necessary investigation and appropriate action as the Employment Exchanges function under their administrative control. Central Government have also *inter-alia* issued general guidelines to the State Governments to check malpractices in the Employment Exchanges.

Manufacture of snack foods and Coca Cola by M/s. JMRPCO.

*66. SHRI DIPEN GHOSH: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the approval given to Ms. JMRPCO Limited for the manufacture of Snack Foods and Coca Cola contains the condition that export import ratio of the project for soft drink concentrate should be 3:1;

(b) whether soft drink concentrate is required to be exported by BRITCO Foods to fulfil the above condition; and

(c) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) to (c) The foreign collaboration approval granted to M/s. JMRPCO Limited does not contain any export stipulation which has to be implemented statutorily. However, it has been noted on the basis of the offer made by the Company that they are committed to the export import ratio of the project in the case of import of soft drink concentrate at 3:1. It is, however, not necessary for the Company to export soft drink concentrate.

Underweighment of Coal

*67. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA:
SHRI SARADA MOHANTY:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item published in the Times of India dated the 16th April, 1992 under the heading "Coal Mafia back in Bihar, Bengal; if so, the details in this regard;

(b) whether it is a fact that in March, 1992 alone 25 lakh MTs of steel coal valuing nearly Rs. 250 crores was pilferred;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Railways have permitted coal authorities to test weighment enroute via Railway to verify cover up of initial underweighment at pit heads where Railway officials and colliery officials may prepare false records;

(d) what was the number of complaints of underweighment in coal delivery received during the last year and the claims for compensation;

(e) whether Government have set up any inquiry to investigate the above pilferage; and

(f) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) Yes, Sir. The news item mainly deals with alleged short loading of coal and incorrect weighment of railway wagons, pilferage en-route by unsocial elements and consequential losses to the coal consumers.

(b) Government have so far not received any report of pilferage of coal of such